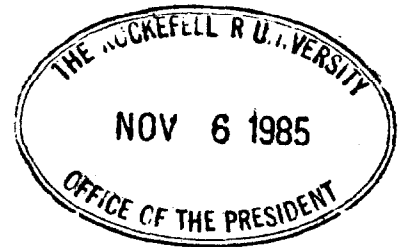


NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

2101 CONSTITUTION AVENUE WASHINGTON, D. C. 20418



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

November 1, 1985

Dear Colleague:

I'm delighted to inform you that, in concert with the National Academy of Engineering, we will establish a West Coast study center, at Irvine California. This new facility was made possible by the extraordinary philanthropy of the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation, which will provide \$20 million for its construction and operation. The Irvine Company has generously agreed to donate the land. The center will, by easing their travel burdens, enhance the participation of our Western members in the studies undertaken by the two Academies through the National Research Council.

The enclosed press announcement, to be released November 4th, provides further details on this new venture. As you may imagine, negotiations for this venture have been complex and protracted; indeed, the final instruments have just been executed. That negotiations have come to a successful conclusion is a tribute to Arnold Beckman and to Donald Bren, of the Irvine Company. It is also a tribute to the members of your Council, who provided continuing guidance and counsel throughout the several months of negotiations. It is, finally, a tribute to the collegial spirit in which the two Academies were able to operate. The facility will be known as the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Center of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering.

I will, of course, welcome your comments and questions regarding this new addition, both now and during the regional Academy meetings in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank Press".

Frank Press
President